

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00276 190150Z

17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 /013 W
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R 190110Z FEB 76

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 276

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5167

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PASS EA/PRCM

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, CH (FONG, LINCOLN LEE)

SUBJECT: USG ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING FOR FONG REPATRIATION

1. DURING VISIT TO CAPITAL HOSPITAL FEBRUARY 18 XZ
USLO ACTING CHIEF AND CONOFF, MRS. LEE-FONG INFORMED
US THAT DOCTORS HAVE TENTATIVELY AGREED TO AUTHORIZE
MID-MARCH RELEASE OF MR. FONG FROM HOSPITAL FOR
RETURN TO U.S. HE IS STILL VERY WEAK AND BEDRIDDEN,
AND WILL ALMOST SURELY REQUIRE MEDICAL ESCORT DURING
RETURN FLIGHT.

2. MRS. LEE-FONG'S BROTHER, DOCTOR SAMUEL PHANG, 1711
SOUTH MARENGO AVE., ALHAMBRA, CAL. 91803 (TEL. AC 213-
283-3435) IS FIRING UP PLANS TO COME TO PEKING IN
MID-OR-LATE MARCH TO ESCORT FONGS ON RETURN TO U.S.
DR. PHANG IS WORRIED, HOWEVER, THAT RED TAPE MAY
DELAY ISSUANCE OF PRC VISA, AND MRS. LEE-FONG ASKED
FOR USG ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING PRC VISA FOR DR. PHANG.

3. WHILE SUCH ASSISTANCE MAY NOT BE NECESSARY, WE
BELIEVE CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT STATE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATION TO PRCLO TO EXPEDITE DR. PHANG'S VISA
ISSUANCE. HOWEVER, SINCE HE MAY NOT YET HAVE APPLIED
FOR A VISA AND SINCE HIS PLANS AT THIS STAGE ARE
CONTINGENT ON SEVERAL FACTORS - HIS WIFE'S HEALTH,
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DATE OF FONG'S RELEASE FROM HOSPITAL, AGREEMENT BY AIR-

LINES TO CARRY FONG, ETC. - SUGGEST EA/PRCM FIRST CONTACT DR. PHFCG, INFORM HIM OF DEPARTMENT'S DESIRE TO BE OF ASSISTANCE, AND ADVISE HIM TO KEEP DEPARTMENT INFORMED OF HIS PLANS SO THAT REPRESENTATION CAN BE MADE AT APPROPRIATE TIME.
THAYER

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